

LIVE UNITED™

What We Know About Early Childhood... and what research tells us about the children and parents in our community.

From gestation to age five is a critical time for the development of children.

More than one-third of Rochester City School District kindergartners are entering school with one or more problems that put them at risk for poor school performance.

Even the smallest amount of lead in their blood negatively affects children's functioning and behavior.

In 2007, 426 Monroe County children under age six were newly identified with dangerous blood lead levels.

Poor children are more likely to be in poor health, die during childhood, score lower on academic tests, be retained in a grade, drop out of school, have out-of-wedlock births, experience violent crime and be poor in adulthood.

40% of Rochester's children under age five live in poverty.

Children raised by stable caregivers are more likely to reach developmental milestones than those who aren't.

Annually, about one in five births in Rochester is to a teenage girl.

Children born at a healthy birth weight are best positioned for good physical and emotional health.

In the city of Rochester, 10.7% of babies were born at a low birth weight.

Child abuse and neglect is strongly related to juvenile delinquency, adult criminality and violent criminal behavior.

Child abuse and neglect reports in Monroe County are increasing. In 2007, 6,948 reports were made.

Exposure to violence in early childhood has far-reaching developmental, behavioral and emotional consequences.

16% of Rochester City School District kindergartners have witnessed violence in their neighborhoods. 11% have witnessed violence in their homes.



**United Way
of Greater Rochester**